

1894

MINUTES.

The New River Baptist Association met with Salem church, Oct. 13, 1894, and in the absence of the appointee and alternate, the Introductory was delivered by Elder J. A. Glenn.

After a bountiful repast the body was called to order.

The Moderator being absent, on motion, Elder Frank Wilson was made Moderator pro tem.

After devotional exercises called for letters from the churches.

Letters read by Bros. Samuel W. Clements and C. W. Edmonds, and names of delegates enrolled as follows:

Salem—S. W. Clements, W. F. Kelley and W. F. Dawson.

Mt. Lebanon—Elder J. F. Willis and J. W. Balinger.

Pilgrim's Rest—Elder Frank Wilson and P. M. Walker.

Philadelphia—Elder J. S. Townsend and J. L. Harbin.

Pleasant Grove—A. J. Newton, J. M. Trawick and Jas. M. Kenim.

Shepherd—Not represented.

Pleasant Hill—I. N. Fortenberry.

Fayette—W. F. Baker.

Mt. Pleasant—G. H. White, J. R. Gladden, R. T. Beard.

Rocky Mount—G. W. Freeman, A. M. Smith.

Arbor Springs—B. F. Skelton, J. I. Freeman, W. D. Whatley.

Unity—Elder A. N. Reeves, M. E. Reeves.

Elbethel—W. F. Gilpin, C. W. Edmonds, D. R. Riley.

Concord—E. C. Lawlice.

Friendship—C. W. Romine, J. H. Aikin, J. G. Lawrance.

Sipsey Valley—D. T. Savage, Zach Savage.

Shady Grove—Elder M. W. Olive, A. W. Piaion, T. B. Adams.

Then elected—Elder J. F. Willis, Moderator; Zach Savage Clerk, and C. W. Edmonds Corresponding Secretary.

On motion, Elder J. W. Hosmer, from Bankston church, was seated without a letter.

On motion, Bro. J. F. Beal will occupy the stand on the morrow at 11 a. m.

Offered opportunity for churches to unite with the association.

Delegates with petitionary letter from Macedonia church—J. A. South, and G. W. Newton, were received and welcomed.

Appointed the following committees:

On Devotion—W. F. Gilpin and A. J. Newton, with the deacons of Salem church.

On Arrangement—C. W. Edmonds, T. B. Adams and Hugh Wallis.

On Documents—Elder A. N. Reaves, W. F. Baker and J. W. Balinger.

On Sabbath-schools—Elder J. S. Townsend, J. A. South and M. E. Reaves.

On Nominations—Elder Frank Wilson, S. W. Clements and J. L. Patterson.

On Finance—G. W. Freeman, E. C. Lawlice and P. M. Walker.

On Literature—M. W. Olive, Ira Griffin, R. Beard.

On Temperance—A. N. Reaves, A. M. Smith. B. F. Skelton and Elders J. S. Townsend and J. W. Hosmer added.

On Education—J. H. Aikin, D. R. Riley and A. N. Reaves.

Ministerial Education—C. W. Edmonds, W. B. Melton and J. R. Gladden.

Called for Correspondence:

From Tuscaloosa—J. T. Beal.

From Sipsey—J. S. White, I. B. Davis.

Returned Correspondence:

To Tuscaloosa—Elder J. W. Hosmer, J. A. South, G. H. White.

To Sipsey—E. C. Lawlise, Ira Griffin, J. L. Patterson and M. W. Olive.

To Yellow Creek—G. W. Freeman, J. F. Willis and Zach Savage.

To Harmony Grove—J. S. Shirley, J. I. McCollum.

To North River—Elder J. I. McCollum and C. W. Romine

Committee on Devotion report that Elder Frank Wilson would preach to-night at New Hope church, followed by G. W. Freeman. Elder A. N. Reaves at Salem, G. H. White to follow.

On motion, will meet at 9:30 a. m. on the morrow in Sabbath-school mass meeting, and that Elder J. A. Gleen fill the stand at 4 p. m.

Adjourned to 8:30 o'clock Monday morning.

SUNDAY.

Sabbath-school services conducted by Elder J. S. Townsend.

At 11 o'clock a. m. Bro. J. T. Beal delivered a very entertaining discourse.

At 4 p. m. Elder J. A. Glenn delivered an able and interesting sermon that was quite a treat to all who were so fortunate as to hear him.

OCTOBER-15TH

MORNING SESSION.

The body met pursuant to adjournment, and after devotional exercises, called for report of committee on Arrangements. Report adopted, as follows:

REPORT ON ARRANGEMENTS.

1. Call for report of Mission Board.
2. Call for report of Committee on Education.
3. Call for report of committee on Temperance.
4. Call for report of committee on Ministerial Education.
5. Call for report of committee on Sabbath-schools.
6. Call for report of committee on Documents.
7. Call for report of committee on Literature
8. Call for report of committee on Nominations.
9. Call for report of committee on Finance.
10. Call for report of Missionary.
11. Call for report of Treasurer.
12. Call for letter of Correspondence.
13. Call for Miscellaneous Business.

Respectfully submitted,

C. W. EDMONDS, Ch'n.

Called for report from the Districts. Report adopted, as follows:

FIRST DISTRICT.

The next meeting to be held with Bankston church, commencing Friday before the first Sunday in September, 1895.

Introductory by Elder J. S. Townsend; M. W. Olive, alternate.

First query first day, "Are the ministers of to-day guilty of either of the five charges that God brought against the shepherds of Israel? If so, what is the remedy for them?" Ezek. 34th chapter, 4th verse.

Opened by R. W. Woods and G. W. McGinnis

First query second day: "Which is to blame for the present coolness in the churches, the churches or the ministers?" Opened by G. W. Rowe and S. W. Clements. Second Query: "Is the pastor of the church responsible for the development of the talents of the members of his church? If so, how may he develop those talents?" Opened by Elder J. J. Patterson and G. W. Baker. Third: "Does the Bible make it binding on the church to support the pastor, or does the Bible require the pastor to work and support himself and family and preach at the same time?" Opened by J. H. Newton and W. F. Nichols. Fourth: "What was the intent of the origin of the District meeting?" Opened by W. G. Baker and J. E. Cox

G. H. WHITE, Moderator.
W. F. NICHOLS, Clerk.

SECOND DISTRICT.

Next session to be held with Unity church, eight miles north of F. C. H., commencing on Friday before the fourth Sabbath in August, 1895.

Elder J. I. McCollum to preach the Introductory; Elder J. F. Willis alternate.

J. S. SHIRLEY, Moderator.
W. B. SHIRLEY, Clerk.

Called for report of Mission Board, when the following was presented and adopted:

REPORT OF MISSION BOARD.

Dear Brethren—There have been no meetings of the Board since our last association. I have been from home the greater part of the time, and as we had more ministers than churches in our association, I could see no necessity of a missionary in our bounds, but at the same time we ought to remember that there are others who have not the gospel preached to them, and we should contribute of our means to send it to them.

I, as chairman of said Board, assume all responsibility for the failure and am willing to and ought to bear the blame.

Respectfully submitted,

J. D. THOMAS, Ch'n.

Called for report of committee on Education. The following was adopted:

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Education is a subject that should interest all our people, and we are glad to know there is quite an advancement in this direction. While the law protects us by requiring all teachers to have attained to certain qualifications, both in morals and science, we should be very careful to know the habits of life, as well as other qualifications of those to whom we intrust the instruction of the young. All the children of the country may receive a liberal education with the advantages our law now affords, if parents and guardians will use the proper energy in this direction. To those who wish to give their children a collegiate course, we would recommend the Howard College, at East Lake, for young men, and the Alabama Central, at Tuscaloosa, and the Judson, at Marion, for young ladies.

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. AIKINS, JR., Ch'n.

Suspended regular order of business and received correspondent from Sipsey, Elder J. B. Ferguson.

Called for report of committee on Temperance, and adopted, as follows:

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your committee on Temperance would report, that after investigating this subject as best we can, in the limited time at our command, we are compelled to acknowledge that we do not see any advancement on this line of Christian work. While we find so many church members who misapply Scriptural quotations, and who misquote God's Word to justify their body and soul destroying habit, we need not expect improvement in this direction. God's Word plainly declares "ye are the light of the world" Then if by our examples, we lead others to dram drinking, which is the first step in drunkenness, we thereby are leading men to lives of crime and shame, and their souls to hell. Brethren, as citizens of Alabama, we have the right to demand and the power to control our legislation, whereby this crime against humanity and God should be suppressed if we would walk worthy of our profession. Let us arise, by the help of God, and free ourselves and country from this greatest of all curses, the manufacturing, selling and drinking of intoxicants.

Respectfully submitted,

A. N. REEVES, Ch'n.

Ministers not delegates or correspondents, were invited to seats and to participate in the discussions.

The following report on Ministerial Education was adopted:

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

There has been no application for aid from the Boards, therefore we had no meeting of the Board. We urge to the favorable consideration of the association the importance of educating the young minister, and churches having such, to aid them and commend them to the Board, that aid may be given them. Let us look well to this important work, for it demands our assistance. We have on hand about \$12.00 cash.

Respectfully submitted,

G. W. GRAVLEE, Ch'n.

Adjourned to 1:30 o'clock p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Met at 1:30 p. m.

Prayer by Elder A. N. Reeves.

Adopted the following:

REPORT ON SABBATH-SCHOOLS.

We are led to believe from the reading of the letters that the Sabbath-school is still on the decline. This state of things is deplorable. Brethren, while the world is ours by inheritance, through our precious Redeemer, surely we ought to see that God holds us accountable to him for the way and manner in which we bring up our children, and since we believe the Sabbath-school is the most effectual way of teaching them the Scripture, we earnestly beg all Baptists of this association to meet in their respective churches and organize a school for the study of God's Word, endeavoring to bring all the people, old and young, into it. We further recommend that a Sabbath-school Convention be held in each district during the months of July and August of next year, requesting each school to send delegates to same, with full report of their respective schools.

Respectfully submitted,

J. S. TOWNSEND, Ch'n.

Collected cash and pledges, \$43.55, toward educating Bro. A. N. Reeves.

Adopted the following report from the committee on Documents:

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

We have examined the documents placed in our hands, and find that Arbor Spring church has a petition for a letter of dismission from this body. We recommend that the same be granted. We also find the following query from Elbethel church: "Is it right to receive members from the anti-Missionaries without baptizing them?" We recommend that this body take up, consider and answer the same.

Respectfully submitted,

A. N. REEVES, Ch'n.

On motion, the body agreed to discuss and answer the query.

Limited speeches to five minutes.

Adjourned to 8 o'clock a. m. on the morrow.

Committee on Devotion reported Elder J. S. Townsend to preach to-night, Elder Frank Wilson to follow.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16TH.

MORNING SESSION.

The body met at 8 a. m.

Prayer by Elder J. W. Hosmer.

Answered the query: No.

Adopted the following report from the committee on Literature:

REPORT ON LITERATURE.

We first of all recommend more especially the study of the Word of God. Secondly, we recommend the Alabama Baptist, the Texas Baptist Standard and Kind Words, Foreign Mission Journal, Richmond, Va., and the Home Field, Atlanta, Ga.; all of which we believe to be good, sound Baptist literature.

Respectfully submitted,

M. W. OLIVE, Ch'n.

Adopted the following report from the committee on Nominations:

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

We recommend that this body appoint place of next meeting of the association, as there has been no application from either of the churches, Elder J. W. Hosmer to preach the Introductory, Elder J. F. Willis, alternate. Elder J. I. McCollum to preach at 11 o'clock on Sunday, Elder W. G. Baker, alternate.

Mission Board—J. D. Thomas, J. F. Holliman, J. R. Gladden, M. L. Parks and J. R. Agerton.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANK WILSON, Ch'n.

Adopted the following report of committee on Finance:

REPORT ON FINANCE.

Minute Fund.....	\$18 80
Associational Fund.....	9 05
State Missions for W. J. Aikins.....	6 75
Total.....	\$34 60

Respectfully submitted,

G. W. FREEMAN, Ch'n.

Called for report of Missionary. Passed.

Treasurer's report adopted, as follows:

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Cash on hand last session.....	\$32 04
Received of Committee on Finance, Minute Fund.....	21 05
Associational purposes.....	8 00
State Missions.....	6 50
Foreign Missions.....	1 00—\$68 59
Paid to Zach Savage for Minutes.....	\$19 95
" " " " services as clerk.....	8 00
" W. J. Aikins.....	6 50—\$34 45
Balance now in the Treasury.....	\$34 14

Respectfully submitted,

W. F. BAKER, Treasurer.

Re-elected W. F. Baker Treasurer.

Adopted the following letter of Correspondence.

SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH,
TUSCALOOSA COUNTY, ALABAMA,

October 16, 1894.

To Sister Associations with whom we Correspond, the New River Association
sendeth Greeting:

DEAR BRETHREN:—We are now in our twenty-fourth annual session, and
are having a harmonious and interesting meeting. We heartily welcome
your messengers who are seated with us, and hope to meet you by messen-
gers, as shown in our minutes at your next session. May the great Head of
the Church preside over your deliberations, is the prayer of your sister in
Christ.

CHAS. W. EDMONDS, Corresponding Secretary.

The next session is given to Macedonia church, four miles south of the
Court-house.

Adopted the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Clerk have as many minutes printed as the minute
fund will pay for, and that he have ten dollars for his services. Also money
enough to mail minutes to the churches. Also that he have
the Articles of Faith printed in the minutes.

S. W. CLEMENTS.

Resolved, That this body tender her most hearty thanks to Salem church
and vicinity for hospitality shown during this session.

The Treasurer is instructed to pay the funds now on hand and available to
Bro. J. W. Aikins.

Appointed to supervise the Sabbath-school Convention, Bros. W. G. Ba-
ker, J. H. Newton and R. W. Woods for the First District, and Bros. Frank
Wilson, W. F. Baker and J. I. McCollum for the Second District.

Elder J. W. Hosmer was delegated to the Southern Baptist Convention.

Bros. G. W. Gravlee, J. P. Dickenson, and W. G. Baker to State Baptist
Convention.

It was moved that we pay to the Treasurer a fund to defray delegate's
expenses to the Southern Baptist Convention.

On motion, read and corrected minutes and adjourned to meet with Mac-
edonia church on Saturday before the second Sabbath in October, 1895.

J. F. WILLIS, MODERATOR.

ZACH SAVAGE, Clerk.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our union, who, on producing letters, shall take their seats.

ART. 2. This Association shall be known by the name of the NEW RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, which shall have the privilege to enact and carry out missionary purposes in all their bearings; yet so as that churches and individual members are left free, and that giving or withholding shall not be a bar to fellowship.

ART. 3. To give churches the best advice she can in all matters of difficulty, and if the union be broken between any of the sister churches, to inquire into the cause of the breach and use her best endeavors to remove the difficulty; but if the breach cannot be repaired, to withdraw from any church or churches which she may look upon as being unsound in principle or immoral in practice until the same can be reclaimed.

ART. 4. The churches in our union shall transmit to every annual session of the Association a written communication, specifying the names of their delegates, their number in fellowship baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated and deceased since the last session of the Association, the state of their Sabbath-schools and prayer meetings, and the number of ordained ministers and licensed preachers, with their postoffices, which shall be read and minuted accordingly.

ART. 5 Every church in our union shall be entitled to representation in the following manner: Each church shall be entitled to send three delegates and no more. Any church failing to represent herself as above prescribed, shall state her reasons at the next session.

ART. 6 The Association thus formed, a majority of the members present shall choose by ballot a Moderator and Clerk, who shall serve one year.

ART. 7. Churches may be admitted into this union who petition by letter and delegates, and upon nomination, if found orthodox and orderly, shall be received by the Association, which shall be manifested by the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

ART. 8 Every query sent up to the Association by any church in the union, shall be read and put to a vote by the Moderator whether it shall be debated, and if there be a majority for it, it shall be taken up and investigated, but if not it shall be withdrawn; provided, always, that those be first considered which effect the union of the churches.

ART. 9. Voting shall be confined exclusively to the body in all acts respecting their internal concerns.

ART. 10. The Association shall not adjourn any session until she shall have finished all business on hand, except in extraordinary cases.

ART. 11. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the session rise.

ART. 12. The Association shall, in all cases, be governed by a majority of the members present.

ART. 13. Amendments to this Constitution may be made at any session of the Association when a majority of its members present shall deem it necessary.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe there is one only living and true God, and three persons in the God head, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only rules of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the doctrine of human depravity; that it disables man from keeping the law for life, and that man's recovery and final salvation depends entirely upon the provision which Christ has made, and offered upon the condition of faith.

4. We believe in the doctrine of election through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth.

5. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God, only by the merits of Jesus Christ.

6. We believe the saints shall persevere in grace, and not one of them finally fall away.

7. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and general judgment, and that the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

AS FOR GOSPEL ORDER.

1. We believe that the visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers who have gained Christian fellowship with each other, and have given themselves up to the Lord, and one another, and have agreed to keep up a godly discipline according to the rules of the gospel.

2. We believe that Jesus Christ is the great head of the church and only law giver, and that the government is with the body, and is the privilege of each individual: and that the discipline of the church is intended for the reclaiming of the Christian who may be disorderly either in principle or practice, and must be faithfully kept up for God's glory and unity of the churches.

3. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only proper subjects, and conscientiously do believe the true mode of baptism is immersion.

4. We believe that none have the right to administer the ordinances but ministers of the gospel regularly ordained to that office.

5. We believe that none but those regularly baptized have a right to participate in the Lord's Supper.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

2. To expedite business, committees may be appointed at the discretion of the Association.

3. The Moderator shall be deemed judge of order, and shall have a right to call to order at any time, and any brother not satisfied with his decision on any point of order, may appeal to the Association, on the same day, but at no other time.

4. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association except it be withdrawn by him who made it.

5. Every case taken up by the Association shall be decided or withdrawn before another shall be offered.

6. Every person who shall speak in debate shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator, and shall not be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject, or use words of personal reflection.

7. The Moderator when addressed for leave to speak, shall signify the right of the applicant by naming him or otherwise.

8. No person shall speak more than twice on the same subject, without leave of the Association.

9. No member shall be tolerated in any practice which tends to interrupt public speaking.

10. Any person wishing to retire, shall obtain permission from the Moderator.

11. The Moderator shall give the casting vote, and shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as any other member, provided he appoint another to his seat during the time.

12. The appellation of Brother shall be used in our address, one to another.

13. The names of delegates shall be called as often as the Association may direct.

14. Any member violating the above rules may be reproved as the Association thinks proper, only on the day the offense shall have occurred.

ORDAINED AND LICENSED MINISTERS.

FIRST DISTRICT.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

W. G. Baker.....	Bankston, Ala.
J. W. Hosmer.....	New Lexington, "
J. J. Patterson.....	Ridge, "
M. W. Olive.....	Bankston, "
G. H. White.....	"
J. E. Cox.....	Fayette, "
J. S. Townsend.....	Handy, "

LICENSED MINISTERS.

L. C. Shirley.....	Ridge, Ala.
W. M. Olive.....	Davis Creek, "
J. L. Harbin.....	Handy, "
T. J. Garison.....	" "

SECOND DISTRICT.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

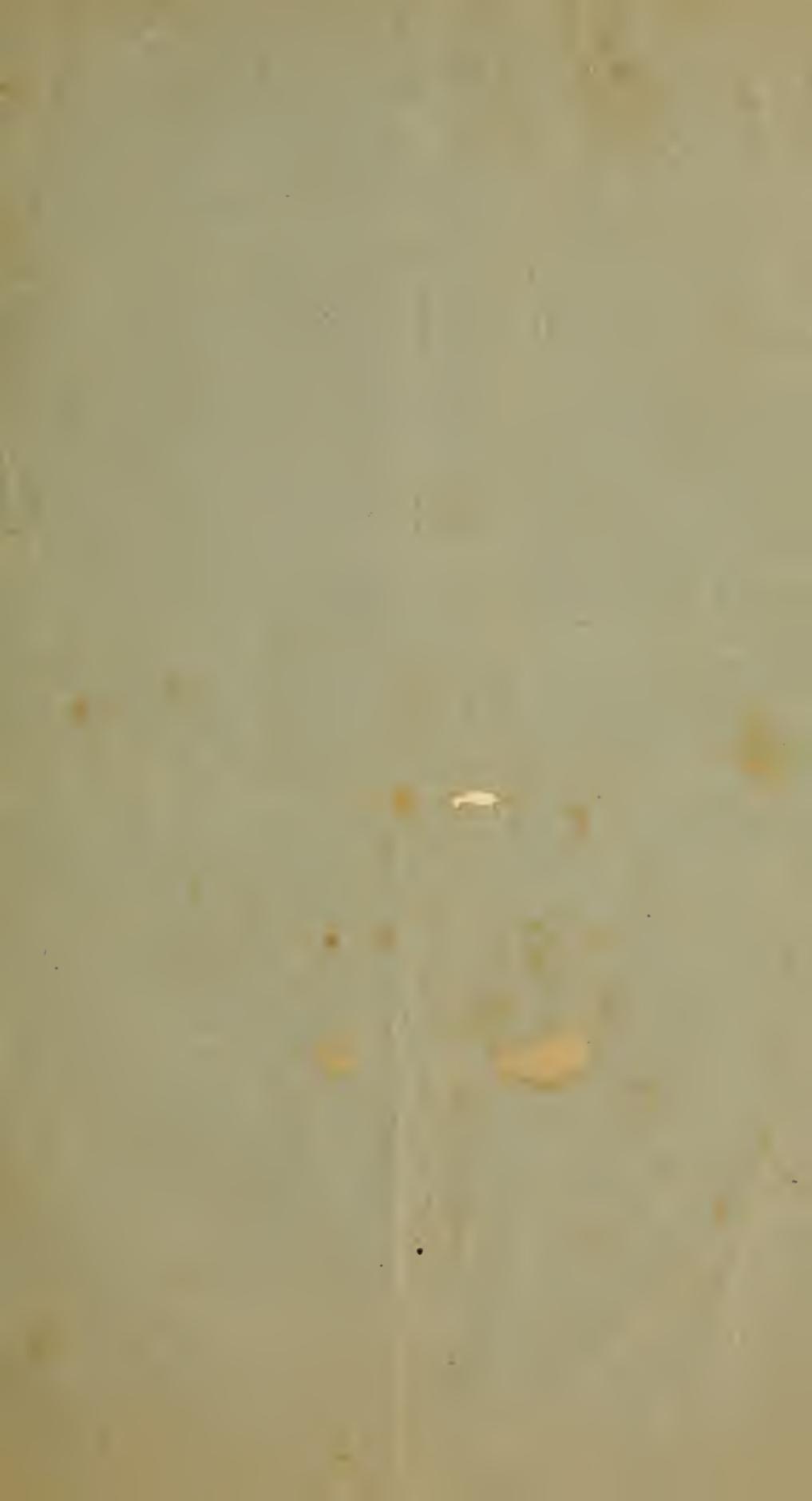
Frank Wi'son.....	Fayette, Ala.
J. I. McCollum.....	" "
A. N. Reeves.....	Ballard, "
J. P. Dickenson.....	Hugent, "
G. W. Gravlee.....	Newtonville, "
J. F. Willis.....	Fayette, "
J. R. Barnett.....	" "

LICENSED MINISTERS.

J. W. Graham.....	Fayette, Ala.
T. W. Shelton.....	Cane, "
G. W. Freeman.....	Fayette, "

STATISTICS OF NEW RIVER ASSOCIATION, 1894.

CHURCH.	PASTOR.	PASTOR'S Post Office.	CLERK.	CLERKS Post Office.	Sunday Meeting.		Present Membership.	Deceased.	Excluded.	Rejected by Letter.	Dismissed by Letter.	Baptized.	Sunday Missions.	Foreign Missions.	
					Minute Fund.	Associational Fund.									
Arbor Springs.....	J. W. Hosmer.	New Lexington.....	J. W. Falls.....	Samantha.....	2	36 \$	75 50	\$2 00	\$						
Bankston.....	W. G. Baker.....	Bankston.....	J. W. Woods.....	Bankston.....	4	1	5	3							
Concord.....	J. M. Chism.....	Bankston.....	G. W. Black.....	Bankston.....	4	11	3	7	2	108	1	25			
Macedonia.....	J. E. Cox.....	Fayette.....	G. W. Newton.....	Fayette.....	4	11	21	8	7	1	25	50			
Mount Pleasant.....	J. W. Hosmer.....	New Lexington.....	L. T. Hocutt.....	Newton Creek.....	3	1	7	8	3	4	17	50	29		
Philadelphia.....	W. G. Baker.....	Bankston.....	I. B. Deavors.....	Deavors.....	1	1	7	6	4	1	60	50	25		2 65
Pleasant Grove.....	J. S. Townsend.....	Handy.....	J. M. Matherg.....	Fayette.....	3	6	8	2	2	1	37	100	50		
Pleasant Hill.....	J. W. Hosmer.....	New Lexington.....	E. B. Newton.....	Fayette.....	1	14	7	2	2	1	64	100	50	4 55	
Shady Grove.....	J. J. Patterson.....	Ridge.....	Alexander Ray.....	Berry.....	1	3	2	5	1	1	78	100	50		
Salem.....	I. L. Collins.....	Ridge.....	W. F. Dawson.....	New Lexington.....	3	2	4	1	1	1	59	100	50		
SECOND DISTRICT.															
Elbethel.....	J. P. Dickenson.....	Bugent.....	M. D. Killingsworth.....	Bugent.....	12	5	5	1	1	1	67	150	50		
Fayette.....	J. I. McCollum.....	Fayette.....	F. A. Nuckols.....	Fayette.....	4	16	1	1	2	40	100	50			
Friendship.....	A. N. Reeves.....	Ballard.....	J. H. Meharg.....	Ballard.....	3	9	2	13	1	1	91	100	50		
Mount Lebanon.....	N. J. Dyer.....	Caine.....	J. F. Holliman.....	Caine.....	1	1	1	1	2	1	55	100	25	3 00	
Pilgrim's Rest.....	F. Wilson.....	Fayette.....	J. A. Freeman.....	Fayette.....	2	9	2	1	2	1	110	100	50		
Rocky Mount.....	A. Pennington.....	Hitego.....	W. S. Bobo.....	Covin.....	1	5	5	3	1	70	50	80			
Shepherd.....	F. Wilson.....	Fayette.....	W. M. Patterson.....	Newtonville.....	4	2	4	1	1	48	100	50			
Sipsey Valley.....	J. S. White.....	Ridge.....	Zach Savage.....	Newtonville.....	1	1	1	1	1	26	30	30			
Unity.....	A. N. Reeves.....	Ballard.....	J. A. Harbin.....	Ballard.....	4	13	14	4	1	2	3	87	100	50	



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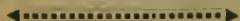
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J. B. COLLIER, SECRETARY,

23 DEXTER AVENUE (Up Stairs).

Montgomery, Ala.